

The Pilot

May 2023



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Dear Community,

**“All things seem possible in *May*.” –
Edwin Way Teale.**

How true this is!

**We think our villages look particularly
pretty in May. And there is plenty going
on in our lovely villages this month.**

**We bring you news of the new allotments
in Charminster Farm, an update on the
Village Hall Quiz and a birthday party for
the WI.**

**Don't forget the Coronation Competition
to decorate your home—entries need to
be in by 8th May.**

Mel and Claire

Deadline for submissions— 3rd May



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Stinsford News

For all the stated beginning of spring - the Meteorological first day, the Spring Equinox and the clocks going to British Summer Time, we would have hoped for a change, but it was not to be with some of the worst possible wind and rain to date. The new spring lambs arrived and tucked in against each other or their mothers, rarely putting their heads up in the damp, adverse cold weather. Gloomy days and as I write this piece for the Pilot it is April 1st and there is a promise of warm weather next week or is it an April Fool, I hope not.

This time last year we were voting on the Parish Plan. Now approved the Parish Council, with the support of working groups, is bringing forward the next stages.

The Coronation of King Charles 111 will be the focus in early May. It is some 70 years since his mother Queen Elizabeth 11 was crowned in June 1953.

On Saturday, May 6th, 2023, the bells will be rung at Stinsford following the completion of the crowning; many church bells will sound throughout the country on this day.

On Sunday May 7th a “Songs of Praise” service with some of the best loved hymns and this will be followed by cake and fizz to celebrate. A group in Stinsford has come together to arrange a ‘street party’ using the space provided by St Michael’s car park. A dozen large tables are ordered, together with chairs and bunting to match. All parish folk are invited to bring food to share and drink for themselves and enjoy the events of the day. A large, appropriately coloured, coronation cake will be on hand with a piece for all. If the weather is not good, we will then all move inside the church, so the event will still go ahead. Looking forward to a great party atmosphere around Stinsford on this day. **There is also a fun competition - make your own crown for the day, it may be just that wonderful, best hat of yours so bring it along.**

May also brings two Christian festivals:

Ascension Day on Thursday May 18th - 40 days since the resurrection and Jesus having gone through life, ministry, death, and resurrection ascends to heaven on this day.

Pentecost which falls on the fourth Sunday May 28th, namely **50 days from Easter. It is also known as Whitsunday** to Anglicans and Methodists as the Christian holy day of Pentecost and commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples as described in Acts 2. In England it took on some characteristics of Beltane, which originated from the pagan celebration of Summer's Day. **Whitsuntide**. In medieval times, the week following Whitsunday, was one of three holiday weeks where the villein on most manors was free from service on the lord's demesne. This marked a pause in the agricultural year. Whit Monday, the day after Whitsun, as many of us will remember, remained a holiday in Britain until 1971 when, with effect from 1972, it was replaced with the title, the Spring Bank Holiday, being the last Monday in May.

Many if not all will know by now that it was announced recently that our assistant curate, the Reverend Leila Mather is to become Rector of the six parishes within the benefice of Charminster, Stinsford and the Chalk Stream (Bradford Peverell, Stratton, Frampton and Sydling St Nicholas) and will be licensed in St Mary's, Charminster on 5th September 2023. We still await news as to whether the Diocese are to replace the House for Duty priest, formally the Reverend Penny Kennedy, now retired and housed in Stratton.

We wish Leila every success in her new role

Michael Clarke



**Update from Dorchester &
Sherborne offices of Central
Dorset Citizens Advice**

April 2023

Cost of living grants update

The Government has confirmed that a new series of cost of living grants will be paid this year. These include £900 to the most vulnerable households, and an extension of the support for pensioners and people with disabilities.

8 million families on means tested benefits will receive £900 in three instalments, with the first payment between 25 April to 17 May this year for eligible households. The next £300 will come sometime in Autumn this year, with the final payment in Spring 2024.

There will be a separate disability cost of living payment of £150 this summer.

The Dept of Work and Pensions (DWP) will also extend the £300 winter fuel payment - a bonus known as the Pensioner's Cost of Living Payment - for the winter 2023/24

Further information on Cost of Living Support plus energy saving tips is also available on the Government's Help for Households' website: <https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/>

For advice on benefits or any other issue you can visit Citizens Advice website, call our Adviceline on 0800 144 8848 between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday, or check local office opening times at <https://centraldorsetca.org.uk/>



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New Allotments in Charminster

The new allotments at Charminster Farm are due to be completed very soon. If you are interested in taking on a tenancy for a plot and would like further details, please contact the Parish Council Clerk. Email:

clerk@charminsterinfo.com

There will be a range of plot sizes available so that you will be able to choose a size that is suitable for the crops that you intend to grow and that you will be able to keep maintained. A shed will be provided on each plot and there will be water available on site. The site will be fenced with a secured gate and a parking area adjacent to the entrance. In addition, there will be a small number of raised beds in an easily accessible area for anyone with limited mobility preventing them from taking on a standard plot.



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Stinsford Parish Council News

Ever thought of becoming a councillor? It can be a very rewarding role. It is a good time to take it on for a trial period at present. In May 2024 all Stinsford Parish Council seats will be up for re election. This means that the Council can co-opt councillors to fill our three vacant seats and if it is not for you then you simply need not stand for election in May 2024.

To qualify to become a councillor all you have to do is live or work in the parish. There are over 80,000 local councillors in England accountable to residents in their localities hopefully trying to make a positive contribution to their communities.

Stinsford like all civil parish councils is a legally recognised body with specified duties in its administrative boundaries. Stinsford Parish Council has a long history. It was formed in 1894 following the enactment of the Local Government Act (1894). This created parish councils on more or less the same basis as they exist today. The history of the civil parishes is however much older. Indeed the Digger Gerrard Winstanley in the 17th Century proposed that civil parishes could create a federated set of political institutions to replace the nation state. Today's parish councils generally have a much more limited role than Winstanley envisaged but still have a wide range of functions that are valued by their communities. In part this is because as the lowest level in the hierarchy of government organisation the parish councils are closer to the people that they represent.

While it is clear that Stinsford Parish Council is not going to change the world it does provide a platform to think about what will help to make Stinsford a better place for local residents. I hope that this is apparent to those of you that have read our Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan. It is also expressed through our responses to consultations by central government, Dorset Council and others. A recent example is our response to the governments consultation on the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill that will determine land use planning practice for the foreseeable future once passed into law.

Being a parish councillor is about trying to sort out issues that mean so much to many residents, ensuring that the footpaths network is usable; maintaining the Lower Bockhampton Playfield; campaigning over road safety and all else. It's sometimes these things that are so important in the everyday lives of residents.

Please contact me or any of the other councillors if you have any interest in becoming, or trying out the role of, a parish councillor. We would be delighted to explain the role in more detail or try to address any concerns that you may have in considering this. We really do need your support.

Sarah Jane Pattison

Chair



Coronation Quiz

This month's quiz celebrates the Coronation of King Charles III

1. Which monarch wrote after her coronation: "The Archbishop had (most awkwardly) put the ring on the wrong finger, and the consequence was that I had the greatest difficulty to take it off again, which I at last did with great pain."
2. Which Shakespeare play did King Charles quote in his first address to the nation?
3. What is the name of the crown placed on the head of Queen Elizabeth II during her Coronation service?
4. Which musical instrument can the King play?
5. What was the first documented coronation at Westminster Abbey?
6. What's the name of the town King Charles helped to design?
7. Who designed Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation dress?
8. King Charles III is the oldest person to accede to the British throne. True or false?
9. Which two monarchs did not have coronations?
10. When was coronation chicken invented?

Answers on page 39

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Judy Thompson with the County notice board at recent Thinking Day celebrations. One of our Memory blankets and a shawl can be seen on the table.

We are still knitting shawls, twiddlemuffs squares to sew into blankets for the Barnes, Day-Lewis and stroke wards at Dorset County Hospital and we always appreciate donations of wool for this. Over the 3 years we have been doing this, more than 200 blankets and 100 each of shawls and twiddlemuffs have been donated. You don't have to be a member of Trefoil to contribute to our community knitting project – probably more than half our knitters aren't.



The County Walk, at the end of March, started and ended at The Sun Inn. We walked towards the county show ground and then took a circular route back to the Sun finishing via Higher Burton Farm where we are pictured. 14 members from all over the county joined us and enjoyed our lovely area. It was lovely seeing tiny lambs in the fields just to the north of the showground.

Our café catch-up and knit and natter groups met and our evening Trefoil had fun playing skittles at the Colliton club. April's afternoon meeting had an Easter theme with cake.

Nothing to do with Trefoil really and everything to do with the village. I went along to the Thursday lunch club in the village hall - great chat with lovely people and delicious soup and cake as well. All for a donation in the pot. It's 11.15am - when the conversation stops. Everyone welcome. Everyone is also welcome at Trefoil - afternoon or evening. Just contact me for more information.

Judy Thompson

e-mail:jct231@outlook.com (or via Charminster WI)

CHARMINSTER WI MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting was our 105th birthday! We welcomed the New Hardy Players who entertained us with 'A Celebration of Spring' – a mixture of Dorset poems and songs, with musical accompaniment of squeezebox and fiddle. The Players were all dressed in traditional costume and our members were encouraged to dress in Victorian costume too. Many of them did – we even had a couple of chimney sweeps! The evening started with drinks and nibbles and, after the performance, ended with tea/coffee and a slice of the wonderful birthday cake made by Mary. It was lovely to see so many members, guests and visitors from other local WI's.

Next month is our Annual Meeting when we vote for our committee and officers. After the official business, we look forward to being entertained by Linda Gundry with poetry, jokes and anecdotes. Our 2023/4 programme is being prepared and will be handed out to members at our meeting on 9th May, which will be a celebration of the Coronation.

Judy Bird



Have you noticed that the Jubilee Stone has arrived?
Here is Olly Greenaway overseeing the tricky operation
to get the heavy Portland stone into place.





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Instagram: [anthonypaulart_molehill_studio](https://www.instagram.com/anthonypaulart_molehill_studio)

May23

Bockhampton & District Horticultural Association

All are invited to BDHA's Bring & Buy Plant Sale and Coffee morning on Saturday 13th May, at Talbothays Lodge, West Stafford DT2 8AL. Lots of parking adjacent to the sale, but please don't bring dogs.

The sale starts at 10:30 sharp, with coffee and homemade cakes available from 10:15. We particularly welcome you from that time if you are donating plants to sell. It gives us a chance to price them up and get them on the right table. We have been holding this sale for more than 30 years and have always offered a huge selection of really well-priced annuals, perennials, shrubs, vegetables and herbs that have been nurtured and potted-on by our members. We will be shutting up shop at 12 noon. All proceeds go to BDHA to help fund our events programme and annual shows.

Our second event in May is a tour of Kingston Maurward Gardens, guided by the Head Gardener, on Thursday 18th May starting at 1.30pm. This is a free event for members of BDHA and guests are very welcome for a charge of £1.00 a head, payable on the day. No booking necessary. More information on info@bdha.co.uk

If you would like to join or rejoin BDHA, the annual fee of £7.50 includes free admission to all our events, together with other offers and discount buying. Please contact Linda, our membership secretary, on 01305 753639.

CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR MAY 2023

The Benefice of Charminster, Stinsford & the Chalk Stream Churches

Sunday, 7th May 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter – Coronation Weekend



Bradford Peverell	4.00 pm	Soul Food
Charminster	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Frampton	NO SERVICE	
Stinsford	11.00 am	Songs of Praise
	<i>Followed by bubbles and cake</i>	
Stratton	11.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Sydling St Nicholas	4.00 pm	Songs of Praise
	<i>Followed by tea</i>	

Sunday 14th May – 6th Sunday of Easter



Bradford Peverell	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Charminster	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.00 am	Morning Praise with Baptisms
Frampton	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Stinsford	11.00 am	BCP Matins
Stratton	NO SERVICE	
Sydling St Nicholas	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (CW)

Thursday 18th May – Ascension Day

Frampton Tower	Morning Praise & Worship – Frampton Church Tower (Time TBC)	
Charminster Tower	6.00 pm	Sung Communion Service (CW) with refreshments.

Sunday 21st May - 3rd Sunday after Ascension

Charminster 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
Bradford Peverell 11.00 am Praise & Worship!

**Combined Deanery Service at St Mary's,
Dorchester at 3.00 pm.**

Sunday 28th May - Pentecost

Bradford Peverell 6.30 pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
Charminster 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00 am Holy Communion (CW)
4.00 pm Messy Pentecost



Frampton 9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)
Stinsford 6.00 pm Evensong (BCP)
Stratton NO SERVICE
Sydling St Nicholas NO SERVICE





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FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

Contact the Administrator for the Parish of St Mary's Charminster and St Michael's Stinsford, Jean Garrard stmaryschurchcharminster@outlook.com



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Village Hall quiz raises £500

Where is the world's largest desert? * That was one of the trickier questions tackled by more than fifty villagers in last month's quiz at Charminster Village Hall. Competition was fierce but good-humoured, and the contest was eventually won by a team of neighbours from New Buildings, near Wolfedale Golf Course.

The evening raised almost £500 for village hall funds. Quizmaster Nigel Kay thanked contestants for their support and promised to repeat the event in the autumn.

*Answer: The world's largest desert is the Antarctic Polar desert.

Quiz Answers

1. Queen Victoria
2. Hamlet: “may flights of angels sing thee to thy rest”
3. The St. Edward's Crown
- 4 The cello
5. The first documented coronation at Westminster was that of William the Conqueror on 25th December 1066
6. Poundbury
7. Norman Hartnell
8. True
9. According to Westminster Abbey, the two monarchs who did not have any coronation were Edward V (the boy king), who was presumed murdered in the Tower of London before he could be crowned, and Edward VIII who abdicated 11 months after succeeding his father.
10. Coronation chicken was created by Le Cordon Bleu London to be served at the Coronation Luncheon in 1953

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Villages' Directory

DORSET COUNCILLOR

CLLr David Taylor 07905 352710 cllr david.taylor@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM

All villages are covered by Neighbourhood Police Teams (NPT). We're looked after by Support officer (PCSO 5410) Sarah Pilcher. If you want to contact one of the team for any reason then go online to Dorset Police website at dorchester-rural-npt@dorset.police.uk and follow 'Do It Online' to access a range of services. Or there's always 101 or 999 or via [Do IT Online / Dorset Police](#)

CHARMINSTER CONTACTS

Parish Council	Chairman: Mark Simons	260055
	Vice chair: Carol Matthews	751535
	Parish Clerk: Sarah Davies	819429
Flood Warden	Tim Yarker	265942
St Mary's School	Headteacher: Suzanne Garner	263880
	Caretaker: Belinda Bessant	266598
Pre-School	Vanessa Thomas	251512
Village Hall	Bookings: Sarah Bird sarah345bird@aol.com	266478
WI	Judy Thompson	263783
Bell Ringers	Captain: Chris White	07783555199
Girl Guides	Alison Barlow	07483429596
Brownies	Alison Barlow	07483429596

Scouts,Cubs,Beavers	Ruth Young	268208
Scottish Country Dancing	Val Scriven	265177
Charminsters Stores	Louise Christopher	264312
& Post Office		
Art Group	Dudley Kemp	757151
Community Hall	communityhall@charminster.info	07947 622326

CHARLTON DOWN CONTACTS

Village Hall	bookings@charltondownvillagehall.info	
Jellytots	Emma	07791204323
Flood Warden	Carol Matthews	751535
Charlton Down Cricket	Peter(Tommy) Tucker	07810275847
	youth/senior	
	James Pretty: booking/hire	07810275847

STINSFORD CONTACTS

Stinsford Parish Council	Parish Clerk: Kirsty Rigler	268818
	stinsfordclerk@googlemail.com	



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1st - 8th

May

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